



GIRLS

to date is a lively little number beginning: "We are the Mac girls wear our hair in curls". The girls had their first outing at the recent Newmarket-on-Ingus festival, where they delighted audiences with their singing and dancing. They are pupils of St. Senan's school, Shannon. Their father, William McGuinness, is a painting and decorating contractor.



Ma (7) McGuinness of

Mr. T. O'Reardan, chairman, Charleville Festival; Miss Breda Saunders, National Dairy Queen; Mr. Martin Mullany, chairman, National Dairy Council.

Each year an island is chosen, and the happy selection for the 1970 expedition was Bere Island, which is situated at the mouth of Bantry Bay. The expeditions are well-known throughout the world ever since the pioneer one in 1959 to the Blasket Islands. This year's call sign was EIOAO. Work involved the setting up of a high frequency radio station and associated antenna systems. These consisted of two high-frequency radio transmitters, one operating on voice and the other on CW (morse code).

Results

The results were only fantastic! Over the weekend a total of 634 contacts were made with fellow amateurs in all parts of the world. All continents were worked, including Oceania stations in Senegal, Malaysia, Iceland, Russia, Ghana and New Zealand. And never before were so many American amateurs worked. There was a continuous pile up of stations for hours—all anxious to contact EIOAO before it closed for another year. Twenty-two amateurs made the trip to Bere Island, and each had his spell of operating. Most of the "hams" were from the south-west—otherwise known as Region 4 of the Irish Radio Transmitters Society.

Blaskets in 1969. The others were Joe Murphy, EI4AI, and Tom Corry, EI-127. Tom, as usual, was in charge of the filming of the expedition.

John Dolan, EI9AD, is chairman of the club, and under direction everything went according to plan.

Others to make the trip from Limerick were Eoin O'Kelly, EI6BX; Tom Donnellan, EI9BG, and Michael O'Connor, EI3BN, from Foynes.

A large part of the operating was done by Eamon Cassidy, EI5AJ, of Corbally. Eamon is an adept CW operator and logged a lot of stations.

Others of the party came from Kerry, Cork, Tipperary and Dublin.

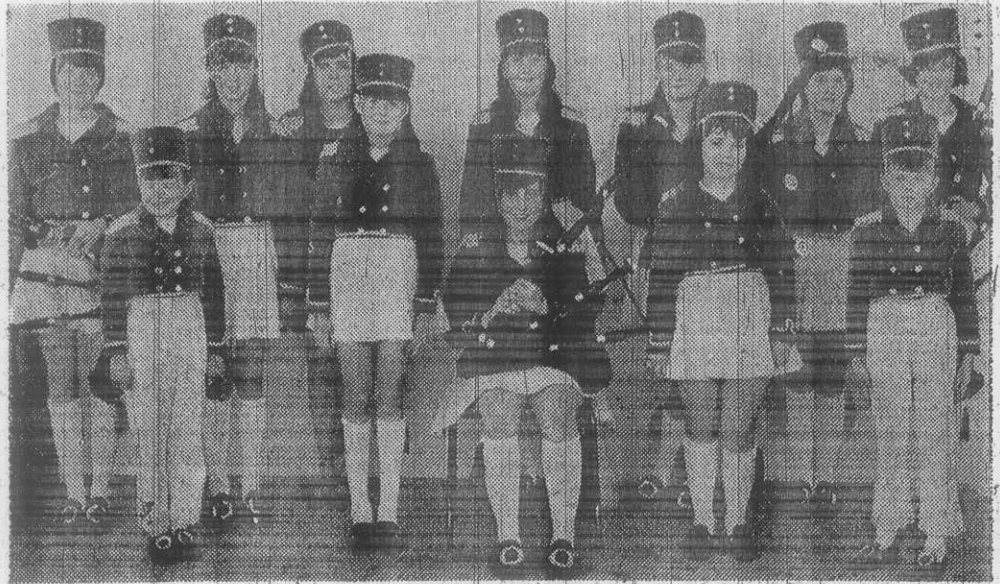
Sean Merry, EI3B, of Ennis, put his high frequency equipment at the disposal of the club for the week-end.

The secretary of the club is Terry Deegan, EI4BK, of 10 Finian Park, Shannon.

Field Day

Last week-end the club took part in National Field Day. This entails operating portable (from batteries or generators) and working as many stations as possible. The club operated from a caravan on the Limerick Racecourse using the club call sign EI4LRC and, when the results are assessed, should do very well in the competition.

Many Happy Returns



Happy birthday to the Limerick Girls Pipe Band. For just a year now, this musically minded group has been entertaining the citizens at special functions and on special occasions, and very sincerely we wish them many happy returns. Taking a look over the past twelve months, their organiser, Mrs. Susan McCarthy of 3 Moylish Avenue, Ballynantybeg, told me: "Our first

year was very successful. Already we have secured and paid for pipes and uniforms. "We don't owe a penny. Our flag day last week raised £77-10. But we still need more money to buy equipment." The drummers in the band are instructed by Mr. P. O'Loughlin, Ballynanty Road, and the pipers are trained by Mr. Joe Hall of Janesboro'. The band had many engagements during their first year

and have several bookings lined up. The members of the band in the accompanying picture are (l. to r.): Mary Naughton, Helena McCarthy, Carol Clancy, Breda Bennis, Christina McCarthy, Carmel McCoy (seated), Mary Shinnors, Susan McCarthy, Joan Bennis, Margaret Mooney, Harriett McCarthy and Carmel Considine.